



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 163

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2017

No. 189

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 17, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ALEXANDER X. MOONEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Send Your spirit of peace and calm, that all might have confidence in Your faithfulness to us, and that no matter what lies ahead, Your grace is abundantly available.

Now we approach a week during which all Americans will gather to remember who we are, a nation generously blessed not only by You, our God, but by courageous ancestors, faithful allies, and the best good wishes of people everywhere who long for freedom, who would glory in the difficult work of participative government, and who do not enjoy the bounty we are privileged to possess.

Bless the Members of this assembly, and us all, that we would be worthy of the call we have been given as Americans. Help us all to be truly thankful and appropriately generous in our response.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 619, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bills were signed by the Speaker on Thursday, November 16, 2017:

H.R. 1545, to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disclose certain patient information to State controlled substance monitoring programs, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3949, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the designation of State approving agencies for multi-State apprenticeship programs for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs;

H.R. 4374, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to authorize additional emergency uses for medical products to reduce deaths and severity of injuries caused by agents of war, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills

of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker on Thursday, November 16, 2017:

H.R. 1545. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disclose certain patient information to State controlled substance monitoring programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3949. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the designation of State approving agencies for multi-State apprenticeship programs for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

H.R. 4374. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to authorize additional emergency uses for medical products to reduce deaths and severity of injuries caused by agents of war, and for other purposes.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on November 17, 2017, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills:

H.R. 1545. To amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disclose certain patient information to State controlled substance monitoring programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3949. To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the designation of State approving agencies for multi-State apprenticeship programs for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(b) of House Resolution 619, the House stands adjourned until 11 a.m. on Tuesday, November 21, 2017.

Thereupon (at 10 o'clock and 2 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, November 21, 2017, at 11 a.m.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H9429

OATH FOR ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Under clause 13 of rule XXIII, the following Member executed the oath for access to classified information:

John R. Curtis

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV,

3191. A letter from the Director, Office of Financial Management, United States Capitol Police, transmitting the Statement of Disbursements for the United States Capitol Police for the period of April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 1910(a); Public Law 109-55, Sec. 1005; (119 Stat. 575) (H. Doc. No. 115-79), was taken from the Speaker's table, referred to the Committee on House Administration and ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. PITTENGER:

H.R. 4452. A bill to amend the Equal Credit Opportunity Act to repeal a small business loan data collection requirement; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 4453. A bill to provide a process by which certain wounded warriors who face medical discharge from the Armed Forces may instead continue to serve in the Armed Forces as remotely piloted aircraft pilots or remotely piloted aircraft sensor operators in the Air Force; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. PITTENGER (for himself, Mr. PEARCE, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. COLE, Mr. ROSS, Mr. ESTES of Kansas, Mr.

LOUDERMILK, Mr. POSEY, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. OLSON, Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. JONES, Mr. FLORES, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. HARPER, Mr. POLIQUIN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, and Mr. LAMBORN):

H. Con. Res. 94. Concurrent resolution recognizing the opening of the nonsectarian Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C., the only museum of its size and scope in the world devoted exclusively to the Bible; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. PITTENGER:

H.R. 4452.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The explicit power of Congress to regulate commerce in and among the states, as enumerated in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3, the Commerce Clause, of the United States Constitution.

Additionally, Article 1, Section 7, Clause 2 of the Constitution allows for every bill passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate and signed by the President to be codified in to law; and therefore implicitly allows Congress to repeal any bill that has been passed by both chambers and signed in to law by the President.

By Mr. PEARCE:

H.R. 4453.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 173: Mr. WOMACK and Mr. POE of Texas.

H.R. 754: Mr. KING of Iowa, Mrs. HARTZLER, and Mr. GAETZ.

H.R. 930: Mr. GIANFORTE.

H.R. 1148: Mr. BLUM, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1200: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1276: Mr. SCHIFF and Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 1318: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. DONOVAN, and Mr. Knight.

H.R. 1456: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 1820: Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 1880: Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 1898: Mr. CULBERSON.

H.R. 2147: Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 2345: Ms. NORTON and Mr. VISCLOSKY.

H.R. 2482: Mr. DIAZ-BALART.

H.R. 2953: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3127: Mr. HARPER.

H.R. 3128: Mr. HARPER.

H.R. 3183: Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 3559: Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. CARBAJAL, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 3596: Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mrs. HARTZLER, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. HILL, and Mr. KINZINGER.

H.R. 3687: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 3699: Mr. VISCLOSKY.

H.R. 3730: Mr. KING of Iowa.

H.R. 3776: Mr. KINZINGER and Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 3867: Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 4007: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. MARINO.

H.R. 4101: Mr. KATKO.

H.R. 4115: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 4143: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. VELA, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. ROSS.

H.R. 4163: Ms. SLAUGHTER and Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 4306: Mr. PALAZZO and Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 4328: Mr. COOK and Mrs. RADEWAGEN.

H.R. 4427: Mr. PITTENGER.

H. Con. Res. 60: Mr. DELANEY.

H. Res. 613: Mr. CALVERT.



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Vol. 163

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2017

No. 189

Senate

The Senate met at 11 and 51 seconds a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable LUTHER STRANGE, a Senator from the State of Alabama.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 17, 2017.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable LUTHER STRANGE, a Senator from the State of Alabama, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,
President pro tempore.

Mr. STRANGE thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 21, 2017, AT 11 A.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 11 a.m. on Tuesday, November 21, 2017.

Thereupon, the Senate at 11:01 and 23 seconds a.m., adjourned until Tuesday, November 21, 2017, at 11 a.m.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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S7313

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2810, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 2810, the Fiscal Year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act. This bill authorizes \$700 billion in defense spending for our already out-of-control Pentagon budget. It would also increase funding by \$66 billion for wars that Congress has never debated or voted on. And once again, my Republican colleagues have used an off-the-books spending gimmicks to further expand the already-bloated Pentagon budget.

Mr. Speaker, enough is enough.

Instead of writing blank checks to the Pentagon, Congress needs to live up to its constitutional obligation to debate matters of war and peace. We need to rip up the 2001 blank check for endless war. We need to stop funding wars without end.

Simply put, Mr. Speaker, we need to do our job.

And this Defense Authorization Act does just the opposite. It allows Congress to kick the can down the road again, while funding wars with no debate on the costs and consequences to our troops or to the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I do have to say that I am pleased by the passage of my amendment, which I co-authored with my good friend Congressman BURGESS, to report on the audit-readiness of the Pentagon. This is a good first step, but much work remains to bring some accountability to Pentagon spending.

So I call on Speaker RYAN to act to actually audit bloated Pentagon spending and to bring forth an authorization so Congress can vote up or down on these wars.

I urge my colleagues to vote 'NO' on this bill and reject this wasteful spending.

HONORING FATHER SOLANUS
CASEY

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 2017

Mr. BANKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Father Solanus Casey and to celebrate his upcoming beatification on Saturday, November 18th. Father Casey was born

in Oak Grove, Wisconsin, the son of Irish immigrants. Though he faced challenges in the early part of his life, Father Casey's love for God guided him to the priesthood. Thus, he joined the Capuchin Order and was ordained a simplex priest. On July 31, 1904, he celebrated his first Mass.

Father Solanus' journey took him to all parts on the country. He was assigned to monasteries in New York, Detroit, and most importantly Huntington, Indiana, where he served the Capuchin novitiate of Saint Felix. He was known for his kind demeanor, his "attitude of gratitude," and his devotion to the Church and God. He served the people of Huntington with distinction from 1946 to 1956. Shortly after, Father Solanus passed away on July 31, 1957.

After years of research and advocacy by the Father Solanus Guild, Father Solanus will be recognized as another step farther along the path to Sainthood this weekend. I am particularly pleased that the Catholic Church is recognizing a man who touched so many lives in Northeast Indiana. Father Solanus still has a strong following to this day, and I would like to congratulate the Catholic Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for all of its efforts throughout the years to celebrate the life and memory of this generous man. I am excited to celebrate this momentous occasion with all of my constituents whose lives have been touched by Father Solanus and his ministry. Father Solanus Casey truly lived a noble, Christian life.

HONORING THE FIRST RESPONDERS
TO THE GLOVERSVILLE
FIRE

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the brave actions of the first responders to a fire in Gloversville, New York.

Due to the quick and decisive response of Gloversville police officers and firefighters, tragedy was averted in a burning house on Grand Street in the early morning of October 20, 2017. Upon discovery of the fire, Officer Melinda Palmer, Sergeant Robert Brown, Officer William Christman, Fire Department Battalion Chief Brandt Minkler, and Officer Ronald Reu were able to ensure the safety of the occupants, two of whom escaped without injury while two were hospitalized and are expected to fully recover. If not for the brave actions of these first responders, the outcomes for these individuals could have been drastically different.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank these firefighters and police officers for their bravery and decisive action, and honor the sacrifices that they have made for the community.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL
ADOPTION DAY

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 2017

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, November 18th is National Adoption Day, intended to raise awareness of adoption. Since the beginning of National Adoption Day, over 65,000 children have been placed in a home. On any given day 428,000 children are in foster care in the United States. Currently, in Illinois, there are 2,806 foster children waiting to be adopted.

Mr. Speaker, to recognize this important day, I am participating in a wonderful project that highlights the importance of finding adoptive families for foster children waiting a permanent home. For the month of November, I will be honoring the Olsson family from Evergreen Park, Illinois, which is in my district. Scott and Heather Olsson adopted a 12-year-old boy named Nathan. On his 11th birthday, Nathan received the best gift when the Olsson's decided to open their heart and their home as foster parents. Nathan remembers the laughter and warmth of the first night he spent with his adoptive family. They were all having a great time as his father Scott, told "corny Dad jokes." Then his parents set a birthday cake on the table that read "Welcome Home." Nathan remembers that moment as he thought, "Home! I feel home for real."

Since then the Olsson family has created wonderful memories, and I know they have many more to create. Many more birthdays, holidays, and special occasions.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Heather and Scott Olsson for breaking the cycle for a young boy. Because of you, he no longer goes from foster home to foster home and instead, has a stable home. Because of you, there is one less child in the system.

At the age of 12, Nathan understands the simplicity and efficiency of adopting an infant, but he urges those considering adoption to consider an older child who may have made poor choices because of instability. And Mr. Speaker, in the words of Heather Olsson, it's always scary to add a new family member, whether adopted or biological, but don't allow that fear to hold you back. Adoption is a rewarding experience.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate met at 11:00:51 a.m. in pro forma session, and adjourned at 11:01:23 a.m. until 11 a.m., on Tuesday, November 21, 2017.

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: On Thursday, November 16, 2017, Committee ordered favorably reported an original bill entitled, "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act".

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 2 public bills, H.R. 4452–4453; and 1 resolution, H. Con. Res. 94 were introduced. **Page H9430**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H9430**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Mooney (WV) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H9429**

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no yea-and-nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11 a.m., Tuesday, November 21

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 a.m., Tuesday, November 21

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Banks, Jim, Ind., E1591
Lee, Barbara, Calif., E1591
Rush, Bobby L., Ill., E1591
Stefanik, Elise M., N.Y., E1591



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